

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, claim 1 and 4 have been amended and claims 6-10 have been added. Claims 1- 10 remain pending.

Drawings

Fig. 1 has been amended to include the reference numeral 10. The amended Fig. 1 is now believed to be in compliance with the statutory requirements.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 6 and 15 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,138,004. Claims 3 and 5 are similarly rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 15 of U.S. Pat. No. 6,138,004 in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,761,618.

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to provide minor clarifications. It should be understood that changes made to claims 1 and 4 are solely for clarification purposes and do not relate to any patentability issue.

Furthermore, a terminal disclaimer is filed herewith in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). The present application and U.S. Pat. No. 6,138,004 are commonly owned by the same assignee, Telemac Corporation. Hence, claims 1-5 are now believed to be allowable over the cited art.

New Claims

Claims 6-10 have been added. These claims do not introduce any new matter and are fully supported by the specification. In addition, these claims are similar to claims 1-5. Therefore, these claims are also deemed allowable over the cited art, subject to the terminal disclaimer.

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PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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